PRINTER POOL
ADMINISTRATION POLICY

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5   A system and method are provided for managing printer selection in a network of connected printers. The method comprises: accepting a print job; determining characteristics of the print job; selecting a printer in response to a programmable administrative policy that cross-references user-defined usage criteria to print job characteristics; and,

10   sending the print job to the selected printer. The administrative policy is programmed to be responsive to print job characteristics such as user identity, client identity, the document processing application sourcing the print job, the document format, media, document complexity, color/BW, rendering, content, job scheduling, and printer capabilities such as

15   stapling, duplex printing, or hole punching.

sla1330